

# Spark Gap

Volume 24, Issue 6, June 2007

## Hurricane Season Is Here!



**ARRL:  
NEWINGTON,  
CT, June 1, 2007  
— It's That Time  
of Year Again —**

The 2007 Atlantic hurricane season officially began today and runs through the end of

November. The National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami is the focal point for hurricane predictions and advisories once a storm is identified.

Information on the storm is gathered from a variety of sources, one being Amateur Radio. When a hurricane comes within 300 miles of landfall, the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) generally is activated; the net may also be activated for a tropical storm that is expected to intensify to hurricane status. HWN's primary thrust is to provide information to the NHC regarding the position and conditions within the storm area and providing advisories to those in the affected area who might not have any other way to get that information. HWN is not a "check-in" net, and checking in from outside of the affected area is strongly discouraged. HWN is also not a health and welfare traffic net but it will provide information as to frequencies where health and welfare nets are operational. When there is a named storm, feel free to tune to 14.325 and *listen*, but please don't transmit unless you have good reason. When

the HWN is in operation, keep in mind that a clear frequency on either side is appreciated, since reporting stations will often be using makeshift antennas and low power. You can get up-to-date information on the storm, as well as receive the latest outlook and advisory bulletins via e-mail, at the Hurricane Watch Net.

### **Commentary:**

Do you ever wonder why there is a need to pay attention to hurricanes here in Indiana?

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### *Season Begins June 1st*

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As a disaster coordinator it is my job to analyze our vulnerability to 33 different types of disasters each year, including the threat of hurricanes. So why hurricanes in Indiana? It's the cascading effect as the hurricanes move inland. When a

hurricane moves inland, where it goes and how strong it remains becomes very important to us. Hurricanes may generate straight line winds, produce tornadoes, and provides lots of rain. Not so much a problem during a dry spell like now but too much rain in too short a time can produce flooding. On a scale of 1 to 100, hurricanes score a 36 on the Hazard Vulnerability Analysis I completed in January 2007. One of the things to remember is that four of the Indianapolis Hospitals (VA, Wishard, IU and Riley) sit very close to White River in a flood plain protected on by levees. Interesting --- Linda Harshbarger, KC9GCH

*The Official  
Newsletter of the  
Mid-State Amateur  
Radio Club*



Mid-State Amateur  
Radio Club  
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Franklin, IN 46131  
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# FCC Announces Enhancements to ULS License Archives



ARRL: NEWINGTON, CT, Jun 1, 2007 — The FCC has announced a redesign of the Universal Licensing System (ULS) License Archive Search. Users can access this new functionality via the “Archives” button under “SEARCH” on the ULS page.

“Each time a license is acted upon, the current version is captured within ULS,” the FCC explained today in a public notice. “The License Archive allows users to view the current and prior versions of a license.”

In the redesigned License Archive, the search interface, results screen and detail pages will use the same display as ULS License Search. On the detail pages, users now will be able to directly access license information.

“There will be no need to ‘drill down’ — follow link after link — to reach the information you need,” the FCC noted. “This enhancement increases functionality and improves compliance with Section 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The redesigned License Archive search interface allows a user to search using most of the criteria available in ULS Advanced License Search except for Radio Service Group, Licensee City, State and ZIP Code and Frequencies. Users will have the same ability to sort and restrict their archive search results that they have in ULS License Search, the FCC said. Licensee ID no longer will be available as a License Archive Search criterion, however. Users should now search by the Licensee’s FCC Registration Number (FRN).

The search results display will be similar to the search results in License Search, with a few minor exceptions:

- No display of a “Pending Applications” icon.
- A column titled “Version” will display “Archived” or “Current” depending on the version of the license.
- A “Last Action Date” column will be

used instead of “Expiration Date.”

In general, the License Archive Search details will look similar to License Search details.

However, the following additional fields will be displayed for all archived licenses:

- Last Action Date,
- Version,
- Licensee ID,
- Sub-Group Identification Number (SGIN).

Also, other License Search functions that previously were not available in the License Archive have been added:

- A Printable Page link allowing the user to print the contents of the page pre-formatted for most common printers.
- A Reference Copy link allowing the user to print an unofficial copy of the license.
- A link to view Related Applications from the current version of the license.
- Ability to view Attachments and Automated letters in a PDF file.

License Archive will display termination pending components similar to the manner in which they are currently displayed in License Search. Additionally, License Archive will display all terminated components of a license, regardless of when it was terminated. These components will indicate a status of “Terminated” on the component’s summary and detail pages. Under the previous License Archive system, terminated components were not displayed unless the license itself was terminated as well.

For additional information or assistance, visit the FCC’s E-Support Web site or call the FCC Support Center, (877) 480-3201 or 717-338-2888 (TTY 717-338-2824) and select Option #2, Forms or Licensing Assistance. Hours are weekdays, except federal holidays, from 8 AM until 6 PM Eastern Time. — FCC

## Officers

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Wanted - articles for the  
newsletter - send to  
PIO@midstatehams.org

## A RENEWED INTEREST

by Matt Payne, KB9UJE

Last month Matt wrote about the use of Amateur Radio in the TV series, Jericho. As promised, here's the episode and message information.

Episode #	Message
1	Jericho pilot
2	Jericho fallo
3	Jericho three
4	He knows Rob
5	There is a fire
6	The EMP hits
7	Pray for NYC
8	Rob not FBI
9	AOV surprise
10	It begins with
11	6 and ends with
12	Bloodshed
13	Bleeding KS
14	4 down 4 to go
15	They will need it
16	A costly deal
17	Rob exposed
18	Who ran red bell
19	One got away

## Gotta Go Bag?

Do you have your go bag ready? Do you only have one bag or do you have several. Linda, KC9GCH, has been doing research on different go bags for different uses including an evacuation bag for adults, one for Seniors, one for the handicapped, one for pets, and one for items to store in your vehicle. You should also have a go bag for Amateur radio equipment and emergency communications. As PIO, I've discovered a list for a PIO go bag. Beginning with the Saturday June 16th meeting and continuing through the year, I will be doing research and providing handouts on go bags. Remember National Preparedness Month is September. Are you ready to go?

## Recent Activities by MARC Members

### WRT Strawberry Festival

Several MARC amateurs participated in the White River Township Strawberry Festival on June 8 and June 9. Check out the website for photos by our own Jack Parker, W8ISH.

### Coming Up Next

#### Field Day 2007

MARC members are completing final plans for our annual field day activities on June 23rd. Check our website next week for details. Contact JR Osborne at [president@midstatehams.org](mailto:president@midstatehams.org) if you wish to volunteer for the event.

#### Greenwood Freedom Festival

MARC will be at the Greenwood Freedom Festival on Saturday, June 30th. We will be set up next to the Johnson County EMCOMM Van and will be giving tours of the van. Contact Jack Parker at [activities@midstatehams.org](mailto:activities@midstatehams.org) if you wish to volunteer for the event.

## September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, and schools. The goal of the month is to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and to encourage individuals to take action.

Families should plan on being totally on their own for up to four days. No cell phones, no power, no internet, no 911, etc.

Are you prepared?

**WA9RDF**  
**Repeater**  
**146.835/**  
**146.235 MHz**  
**151.4 Hz PL**  
**Tone**

**Weekly Net**  
**Every Sunday**  
**at 7PM EST**

***Tune in to hear***  
***the ARRL***  
***Newsline!***

*The Mid-State  
Amateur Radio Club  
sponsors a weekly  
traffic and social net  
on our repeater. The  
net begins at 7:00  
p.m. local time, and  
features local news,  
announcements, and  
NTS traffic, as well  
as rebroadcasts of  
Amateur Radio  
Newsline.*

## Weekly Net

Make sure to check out our weekly net, held every Sunday at 1900 (7 PM) local time. This is a great chance to meet other local amateur radio operators and test your operating skills. Newline is often played, allowing net participants to get the latest news about the amateur radio hobby. For those without the license or means to check in over the air, we offer an email check-in. Just send an email with your name and contact information to [netcontrol@midstatehams.org](mailto:netcontrol@midstatehams.org) and we will record your check-in!



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*Spark Gap*

# 2007 Schedule of Events

## Public Service Events and/or Educational/Testing Opportunities

### JUNE 2007

#### 16 **MARC Meeting - 8 AM**

VEC Testing immediately following the meeting (approx. 9:30 am)  
Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN

#### 23-24 **Field Day**

Location to be determined; For more information contact JR Osborne, KB9HSE

#### 23 **Sprint Triathlon, Indianapolis**

To volunteer or for more information contact Mike Palmer N9FEB at  
[www.indyhams.com](http://www.indyhams.com)

#### 29-30 **Greenwood Freedom Festival, Greenwood**

To volunteer or for more information contact Jack Parker, W8ISH

### JULY 2007

#### 7 **Indianapolis Communications & Technology Expo, Indianapolis**

Camp Sertoma, US Hwy 52 East at German Church Road; Talk-in 146.76

#### 14 **Tour-De-Cure, Indianapolis**

To volunteer or for more information contact Mike Palmer N9FEB at  
[www.indyhams.com](http://www.indyhams.com)

#### 21 **MARC Meeting - 8 AM**

VEC Testing immediately following the meeting (approx. 9:30 am)  
Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN

#### 28 **July Sprint Triathlon, Indianapolis**

To volunteer or for more information contact Mike Palmer N9FEB at  
[www.indyhams.com](http://www.indyhams.com)

### AUGUST 2007

#### 18 **MARC Meeting - 8 AM**

VEC Testing immediately following the meeting (approx. 9:30 am)  
Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN

#### 18 **August Sprint Triathlon, Indianapolis**

To volunteer or for more information contact Mike Palmer N9FEB at  
[www.indyhams.com](http://www.indyhams.com)

#### 19 **Lafayette Hamfest, Lafayette, IN**

Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds; Talk-in 147.135 PL tone 88.5Hz

### Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

**See our website, [www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org), for maps on how to get to our meeting.**